

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Humans are created by the God with different forms and completed with thoughts to survive. In human's life, the human have to face up a lot of needs, especially the needs of love and belongingness are important things in human life. Love is something that can make people feel happy, safe, and get appreciation from others. Love and belongingness are important needs to every one, and people need to be love by some body, parents, relatives, and so on. Need for love and belongingness are needed to have interaction with family, friends, society, relatives, and religious group.

Love and belongingness are the right of people as human being. Without love people can not do and be anything. Love is universal; it means that love is not only between the man and woman who get fall in love. But love can be reflected in the relationship between parents and children. In daily life, there is one of the example of love and belongingness that can be seen in the close relationship like children needs for love and belongingness from their parents.

Sarah, Plain and Tall story by Patricia Maclachlan is a heart warming tale of a family in search of a mother. Anna and Caleb are two motherless children, who live all alone with their father in an isolated, rural community in turn of the century America. Life is difficult on the farm for the three lonely family members. The nearest neighbors are a half-day's drive from the farm by wagon,

and although it has been several years since their papa was widowed, there are no eligible women in the area for him to meet. Little Caleb, Anna's little brother, in particular, needs a mother. His mother died after giving birth to Caleb, and he has never known the love of a mother. This loss tears at Anna's heart every time he asks her what life was like when Mama was alive.

Abraham Harold Maslow was born in Brooklyn New York, in 1908, the son of uneducated Jewish parents who had emigrated from Russia. The eldest of seven children. Maslow was encouraged by his parents to be academically successful, yet by his own admission he experienced. Considerable loneliness and suffering during most of his childhood years.

Maslow began his college education by studying law in an effort to please his father. Two weeks of study at City College of New York convinced him that he could not become a lawyer, so he undertook a more eclectic course of study at Cornell University. In his junior year Maslow transferred to the University of Wisconsin, where he subsequently received all his formal academic training in psychology, obtaining his B.A. degree in 1930, his M. A. In 1931, and his Ph.D. in 1934.

After receiving his Ph. D, Maslow returned to New York to work at Columbia University. He then moved to Brooklyn College. He was affiliated with a number of professional and honorary societies. As a member of the American Psychological Association he was president of the Division of personality and Social psychology as well as of the Division of esthetics and was elected president of the entire association for 1967- 1968. He was vitally

interested in growth psychology, and, toward the end of his life, he supported the Esalen institute in California and other groups involved in the human potential movement.

Maslow in Hjelle and Ziegler (1992: 443) argues that “Humanistic psychology is not a single organized theory or system; it might better be viewed as a movement.” Maslow in Hjelle and Ziegler (1992: 448-449) adds that “It divided into five levels of needs that must be satisfied. The five hierarchy needs levels are: psychological needs, self and security needs, love and belongingness, self esteem needs, self actualization needs.”

Hjelle and Ziegler (1992: 443) states that “Humanistic theorists also stress that each person is the chief architect of his or her behavior and experience. The human being is a conscious. Agent—experiencing, deciding, and freely choosing his or her actions. Humanistic psychology, then, takes as its basic model the responsible human being freely making choices among the possibilities that are open. Hjelle and Ziegler (1992: 445) also states that “Despite the high value placed on becoming humanistic psychologists recognize that the quest for a meaningful and fulfilling life is not an easy one. This is especially true in an age of profound cultural change and conflict, where traditional beliefs and values no longer provide adequate guidelines for the good life or for finding meaning in human existence.” They (1992: 448- 449) adds that “All human are innate and instinctual and that they are systematically arrange in an ascending hierarchy of priority or potentially.”

Hall and Gardner (1985: 197) argue that Humanism asserts the overall dignity and worth of human beings and their capacity for self realization. Humanistic theorists oppose what they see as pessimism and despair of the psychoanalytic perspective. Whereas Maslow in Hall and Gardner (1985: 198) states that “Humanism stands for respect for the growth of persons, respect for differences of approach, open- minded, as to acceptable methods, and interest in exploration of new aspects of human behavior.”

They (1985: 198) add that:

It concerned with topics having little place in existing theories and systems; e. g., love, creativity, self, growth, organism, basic, need- gratification, self- actualization, higher values, being, becoming, spontaneously, play, humor, affection, naturalness, warmth, ego- transcendence, objectivity, autonomy, responsibility, meaning, fair play, transcendental experience, peak experiences, courage, and related concepts.

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Patricia MacLachlan born March 3, 1938 in Cheyenne, Wyoming, USA. She is a bestselling USA author, best known for winning the 1986 Newbery medal for her book *Sarah, Plain, and Tall*. The book was later turned into a movie starring Glenn Close, who was born on March 19, 1947 is a five- time Academy Award- nominated American film and stage actress and singer. Close is an Emmy Awards Winning v movie actress, three- time Tony Award- winning stage actress/ singer and has been nominated for seven golden globes.

Considering the explanation and the fact above, the writer tries to analyze the novel by using humanistic psychological. This novel is a heart warming tale of a family in search of a mother. Anna and Caleb are two motherless children, who live all alone with their father in an isolated, rural community in turn of the century America. Life is difficult on the farm for the three lonely family members. The nearest neighbors are a half-day's drive from the farm by wagon, and although it has been several years since their papa was widowed, there are no eligible women in the area for him to meet. Little Caleb, Anna's little brother, in particular, needs a mother. His mother died after giving birth to Caleb, and he has never known the love of a mother. This loss tears at Anna's heart every time he asks her what life was like when Mama was alive.

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B. Previous Study

As long as the researcher knows, this novel has not been studying yet in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, Sebelas Maret University of Surakarta and other university in Central Java, even in Indonesia.

C. Problem Statement

Based on the reality above, the researcher formulates the problem statement in this study as “How is need for love and belongingness reflected in MacLachlan’s, *Sarah, Plain, and Tall*?”

D. Limitation of the Study

To clear out the study, the researcher limits the study. The researcher is going to analyze Caleb as one of the major character in Patricia MacLachlan’s novel, *Sarah, Plain, and Tall* based on humanistic psychological approach.

E. Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze the novel based on its structural elements by finding character and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, style and theme.
2. To analyze the novel based on the humanistic psychological approach.

F. Benefit of the Study

Here, the benefit of the study is divided into two, namely theoretical benefit and practical benefit.

1. Theoretical Benefit

By this study, the researcher hopes, it will be useful to add the knowledge, especially dealing with literary studies on Patricia Maclachlan's novel, *Sarah, Plain, and Tall* based on humanistic psychological approach.

2. Practical Benefit

By this study, the researcher hopes, it can develop the researcher's ability in applying the psychological perspective, especially humanistic psychological perspective in Patricia MacLachlan's novel, *Sarah, Plain, and Tall*.

G. Research Method

1. Type of the Study

In this research paper, the researcher uses descriptive qualitative method which focuses on the analysis of textual data.

2. Object of the Study

The object of the study of the research paper here is Patricia Maclachlan's novel, *Sarah, Plain, and Tall*

3. Type of the Data and the Data Sources

Type of the data in this study is a text that consists of words, sentences, paragraphs. Whereas the data sources in this study namely the primary data source and the secondary data source.

a. The Primary Data Source

The primary data source of the study is the novel *Sarah, Plain, and Tall* by Patricia Maclachlan.

b. The Secondary Data Source

The secondary data sources consist of the other data besides the novel *Sarah, Plain, and Tall* by Patricia MacLachlan which has relationship with the study, such as the biography of the author, the book of fiction, virtual references and the other relevant information that support this research.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The researcher uses the technique of the data collection in this study by library research which is conducted by collecting both the primary data and the secondary data. There are some steps of collecting data applied in this study are as follows:

- a. Reading the novel comprehensively.
- b. Identifying the topic of the novel.
- c. Determining the major character that will be analyzed.
- d. Reading some related books to find out theory, data, and information required.
- e. Taking notes of information in both primary data and secondary data source.
- f. Arranging the data into several parts based on classification.
- g. Analyzing the data of the research on Abraham Harold Maslow theory of humanistic psychological. Drawing conclusion based on the analyzed data.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

The technique of the data analysis used in this study is descriptive analysis.

The structural elements of the novel and the collected data will be described and analyzed in detail through psychological approach, especially a Humanistic psychological approach.

H. Research Paper Organization

To make this study clear, understandable, and systematic, this study is divided into five chapters. Chapter I contains introduction that consists of background of the study, previous study, problem statement, limitation of the study, objectives of the study, benefits of the study, research method and research paper organization. Chapter II is about underlying theory that deals with humanistic psychological theory, love and belongingness structural elements of the novel and theoretical application. Chapter III covers the structural analysis that consists of structural elements of the novel that includes character and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, style and theme of the novel and discussion. Beside that, this chapter also contains discussion of the structural elements of the novel. Chapter IV is about humanistic psychological approach toward the novel. Chapter V is divided into two parts namely conclusion and suggestion.